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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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AMENDMENTS TO PENAL CODE CITED

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Nov 81 pp 1, 12

[Article by Muhammad Hasan al-Banna and 'Isam Hashish: "Important Amendments in Penal Code; Harsher Punishment for Exploitation of Religion to Incite Sedition; Deterrent Punishment for Truant Employee, for Merchant Who Raises His Prices and for Forged Health Certificates"]

[Text] It has been decided to introduce new amendments to the penal and criminal proceedings law. The amendments provide for including a new article to the penal code calling for a prison term of 6 months to 5 years for whomever exploits religion to incite sedition and to propagate radical ideas and for whomever possesses printed materials or recordings serving this purpose.

The amendments also provide deterrent punishment for the crimes of negligence, obstruction of work and laxity. The penalty for a truant worker, for a merchant who raises his prices [overcharges] and for forged health certificates will be stiffened.

Ahmad Samir Sami, the minister of justice, has stated that the amendments include the addition of a new article to the penal code calling for a prison term of [up to] 5 years for whomever exploits religion or exerts efforts to propagate radical ideas likely to incite sedition, shows contempt for religions, harms national unity and social peace or possesses printed materials or recordings serving this purpose, if such materials are prepared for distribution. The article also expands the sphere of incrimination to include whoever is not licensed to deliver sermons in houses of worship [and yet does so].

The Higher Council of the Judiciary Authorities has approved these amendments and it has been decided to refer them to the Ministerial Committee prior to presenting them to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

The minister of justice also said that most prominent among the misdemeanors for which it has been decided to [raise] the penalty to 500 pounds are the misdemeanors of a truant employee [civil servant], of a civil servant who refuses to carry out his duties, of a civil servant who damages the property or interests of the authority for which he works, or a merchant who causes the market prices to rise in order to realize an illicit profit and of a physician who issues a false health certificate. This is in addition to the misdemeanors of smuggling, of evading the payment of wife

[and child] support, of issuing forged travel tickets and of melting metal coins or selling them at prices higher than their face value.

It has also been decided to amend article 373 of the penal code to provide a penalty of six-month prison term and a fine of 200 for whoever squats in farmlands, open land, an inhabited house or a house prepared for habitation and refuses to evacuate in response to the request of the people with the right to the property.

Facilities for Judges

The minister has stressed that these amendments seek to confront the phenomenon of increasing legal disputes over property ownership, to speed up the settlement of such cases and to transfer the power of decision over such disputes to the judiciary. The minister has also said that the current situation, without the amendments, causes these disputes to consume unjustifiably long periods of time and effort from the judiciary.

Penalty for Torture

It has also been decided to raise the fine for some misdemeanors to 300 pounds, especially the misdemeanors of ordering the torture or the torturing of a defendant, falsely claiming that a person has reached the legal marriage age, [causing] permanent deformities and the misdemeanor of flagrant and public acts of obscenity.

It has been further decided to stiffen the penalties for some misdemeanors, raising the fine stipulated for them to a maximum of 300 pounds, especially the misdemeanors of insulting a public servant verbally, annoying the public authorities or administrative circles, assaulting a public servant, the escape of arrested persons, the concealment or opening of letters by government workers or postal employees, the wearing of medallions not awarded to those who wear them or before a permit is given by the president of the republic to wear them, the unpremeditated causing of an accident to a means of public transportation, the transportation of explosives or of flammable materials, the acceptance and circulation of counterfeit currency out of good intention, the failure of hotel and furnished apartment owners to report the names of their residents, the detention or imprisonment of an individual, the exposure of a child less than 7 years old to danger, the molestation of and indecent exposure to a woman, loaning money at an interest rate exceeding the maximum and the misdemeanor of damaging agricultural machinery or of poisoning livestock.

Following are the texts of the amendments:

Article one, the maximum fine shall be raised from 50 pounds to 500 pounds for:

Whomever founds, establishes, organizes or manages without license any associations, organizations or activities of an international character or branches thereof.

Any civil servant causing by his error massive damage to the property or interests of the authority for which he works if the error is the result of gross negligence in the performance of his duties or of the misuse of authority.

Any civil servant intervening with a judge or a court for the interest or to the detriment of a litigant.

Any civil servant who engages in truancy or who refuses to perform the duties of his job with the purpose of obstructing the progress of work.

Whoever insults by gesture, word or threat a judiciary or administrative court or council or one of their members during a session.

Any escaped detainee sentenced to a prison term or to a stiffer penalty.

Whoever neglects guarding a detained person.

If a seal placed on an establishment or a document is broken or dissolved, the custodian shall be punished for his negligence.

Whoever destroys or damages intentionally buildings or installations designated for public benefit, works built for beautification or works of memorial or artistic value and whoever cuts trees planted in worship places, in streets or in public gardens or parks.

Whoever obstructs telegraph communications or damages telegraph equipment.

Whoever manufactures or owns with the purpose of trading, distributing, selling, posting [on walls] or displaying printed materials, records, posters, drawings, paintings, photographs, symbols or other materials or pictures violating the public morals.

Whoever dishonors the accredited representative of a foreign country in Egypt for reasons connected with the performance of his duty.

Whoever insults a public servant, a public representative or a person entrusted with a public service because of his performance of his duty, his representation or his public service.

Whoever abuses the status, dignity or authority of a magistrate.

Whoever publishes by any means things likely to influence the judiciary, if the publication is for the purpose of creating the said influence.

Whoever publishes by any means false reports or fabricated or forged papers attributed falsely to others if such papers are connected with the public peace and interest.

Whoever publishes reports on an ongoing criminal investigation if the investigating authority has decided to conduct the investigation in the absence of the antagonists or if the authority has banned the publication of such reports out of consideration for the public order or morals or for uncovering the truth and whoever publishes reports on investigations or litigation in lawsuits involving separation, divorce or adultery.

Whoever initiates or announces a subscription to make up for fines, expenses or liabilities imposed by judiciary sentence.

Any doctor, surgeon or midwife who gives as a favor a false statement or certificate concerning a pregnancy, sickness, deformity or a death while knowing of the falsehood of the statement or certificate.

Whoever uses a (notification to confirm a death, an inheritance or a will) while confessing before the authorities concerned that he (has acquired the notification falsely).

Whoever is entitled by the law to (perform a marriage and does so while knowing) that one of the two parties to the marriage has not reached the legal age.

Whoever brings into the country banned goods and whoever transports, carries or conceals such goods or initiates such efforts.

Any individual in charge of the custody of a child who refuses to hand over such a child to whoever is entitled to keep him when the entitled party makes the request.

Any parent or grandparent who refuses to hand over a child to the person entitled to his custody.

Whoever is sentenced by a valid court decision to pay support and refuses to do so within a period of 3 months of his being notified even though he is able to pay the support.

Any doctor, surgeon, pharmacist or midwife who discloses a private secret entrusted to him.

Whoever usurps by force or by threat a document proving a debt or necessitating the payment of a debt, any documents or papers of literary or legal value or any papers proving the presence of a legal case.

Whoever obstructs by threat or coercion an auction for the sale, purchase or leasing of movable or immovable assets.

Persons who cause the rise or fall of the prices of crops, of goods or of documents [securities] prepared for circulation above or below the value set for them.

Whoever burns or destroys intentionally original government documents, files or records or commercial bonds and papers.

Whoever enters the property of another with the purpose of preventing the other from gaining ownership of the property or with the purpose of committing a crime [even if] he has entered it legally and stayed in it with the purpose of committing the crime and even if the crime is committed by one or more persons.

The maximum fine for the following shall be raised to 300 pounds:

Whoever joins an association or organization headquartered abroad without a government permit.

Any individual entrusted with the custody of government papers or documents when such papers or documents are stolen.

Whoever testifies before the authorities concerned with the aim of confirming the legal age of one of the parties to the marriage while knowing that his testimony is false.

Whoever inflicts on another person wounds or injuries disabling him for more than 10 days.

Whoever inflicts wounds or injuries not reaching the abovementioned degree if such wounds or injuries are inflicted with premeditation.

Whoever mistakenly [unintentionally] causes the wounding or injuring of another person because of his negligence, if the wound results in a permanent deformity.

Whoever commits publicly an obscene act violating morals.

Whoever destroys, damages or moves topographical and land survey signs.

Whoever obstructs by force or by other means public works ordered by the government.

Whoever enters an inhabited house or a house or a part thereof prepared for occupation, or an occupied (houseboat) or a place designated for the storing of money if such property belongs to others and if the entry is for the purpose of preventing others from gaining ownership.

8494

CSO: 4504/101

DECREE DEFINES CRIMES TO BE TRIED BEFORE EMERGENCY COURTS

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 19 Nov 81 p 7

[Article: "Crimes and Violations for Which Perpetrators Will Be Referred to Emergency Court Are Defined"]

[Text] A republican decree has been issued defining the violations and crimes for which a perpetrator will be referred to the emergency courts--Supreme State Security Court and lower state security courts.

The decree has defined these violations and crimes in accordance with the penal code concerning the instigation of crimes of murder, looting, arson and crimes undermining the government security through verbal inducement, through loud public expression or through an action committed by deed, by writing, by painting, photographs or symbols or by any of the public means of acting [theater, movies]. [These crimes include the following:]

Instigating the overthrow of, hatred and contempt for the regime and encouraging propagation of the creeds that call for changing the principles of the constitution or the fundamental laws of the social body [society] by word, by intimidation or by any other illegal means.

Instigating the troops by any means to disobey orders or to refuse to perform their military duties.

Instigating hatred and contempt for one or more sect when such instigation is liable to trouble the public peace.

Damaging the public telegraph or telephone communications or damaging any of their equipment through negligence and indifference, through cutting the wires, breaking part of the equipment, damaging the wire insulation, using telegraph poles or the telegraph lines in times of rioting or of sedition or through seizing such equipment by force, thus cutting off communications among the public authorities.

Disturbing others through telephone harassment and intentionally exposing the safety of the public means of air, sea and river transportation to danger.

Transporting or initiating the transportation of explosives or flammable materials in trains or in other vessels used for mass transportation or in postal letters, except in cases where such transportation is permitted.

Riding trains or other means of public transportation and refusing to pay the fare or riding in a section more expensive than the section for which the passenger has paid the fare and refusing to pay the difference.

Riding in places not used for passengers in the public means of transportation.

Carrying and possessing weapons and ammunition personally or by proxy without permit and trading in bladed weapons without a license.

Holding public meetings without notifying the authorities of the time, site and subject of the meeting, even if the purpose is for a public lecture or discussion or for a parliamentary activity, or holding such meetings in places of worship, in schools or in other government buildings if the lecture or discussion is for a purpose [other than] that for which such places are designated or if the meetings are held after 2300, unless by a special police permit.

Organizing political demonstrations, processions or meetings in public streets or squares without prior notification [of the authorities].

Purchasing food supplies for reasons other than personal use and reselling supplies which are distributed by the public sector establishments and by the consumer cooperatives and their branches.

Mixing the food supplies for which compulsory prices and profit limits are set with other supplies and reselling them after they are mixed.

Individuals entrusted with the distribution of food supplies designated for certain areas and certain people who dispose of such supplies in other areas and to other than the designated people [will be referred to emergency courts].

Imitating food packages and the deceitful and unjustifiable distribution of food supplies.

Publishing false reports or advertisements and making statements and spreading rumors concerning the availability or distribution of food supplies with the aim of raising their prices.

Producing, owning or offering for sale flour failing to meet the specifications set by the minister of supply or mixing any kind of flour that fails to meet such specifications with flour that meets them.

Possessing bread baked from flour that fails to meet the specifications.

Disposal by bakery owners or managers of the quantities of wheat, barley, rice or corn in their possession without permit.

Violating the regulations banning the display and sale of meats in meat markets on days other than the permitted days and slaughtering livestock in, through or outside slaughterhouses on days other than the permitted days.

Gaining possession of products and other commodities distributed by the government agencies or by the charitable societies as aid to the poor and to the provincial

workers or to other circles designated on a decision by the minister of supply, regardless of whether possession is gained through purchase, barter or any other means.

Failure to deliver any supplies, places, materials, or means of transportation which the Ministry of Supply decides to seize.

Disregarding or failing to implement the regulations concerning supply affairs.

Violating the law on the formation of parties and its amendments by forming or joining parties founded on a sectarian or religious basis or on the basis of discrimination because of sex, origin, religion or faith, forming parties containing military or para-military organizations or forming a party constituting a branch for a party founded abroad.

Founding an illegal party, even if it is concealed in the form of an association, a society, an organization or a group.

The acquisition by any political party official, member or worker of "money" by proxy or directly or of any unjustifiable benefit or gain from an Egyptian or foreign legal status person to engage in activity concerning the party.

Forming organizations, associations or societies opposed to the alliance of the people's working forces, to the realization of equal rights and duties for the citizens and to the freedom of faith and of opinion in a manner which undermines the liberties of the others and the fundamental mainstays of society.

Exposing national unity to danger through violence, threats or any other illegal means of opposing the state's general policy or of influencing the state's political and constitutional decision-making institutions.

Circulating intentionally false or tendentious reports, statements or rumors with the aim of undermining the national unity existing between the people's forces or between their sects.

Working as an intelligence agent for another country.

Instigating the masses to obstruct implementation of the laws and regulations with the aim of influencing the constitutional authorities' performance of their duties or of preventing the government agencies, the public or private sector establishments or the educational institutions from carrying out their work through the use of force or through the threat of the use of force.

Premeditated work strikes, if the purpose is to threaten the national economy.

Organizing or participating in sit-in strikes and mass gatherings, if the purpose is to expose the public peace to danger.

8494
CSO: 4504/101

STUDY UNDERLINES CAUSES OF SKILLED LABOR SHORTAGE

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 19 Nov 81 p 5

[Article by Jamal Kamal: "Technical Education on Trial: Our Needs Are 14 Million Technicians and Our Capabilities Are 40,000 Only"]

[Text] The issue of the shortage of skilled labor has been raised for discussion anew. President Husni Mubarak has included it in the seven issues which he had presented to the people and the experts to voice their opinion on them. There are many studies and reports which diagnose the problem and propose solutions.

Egypt's labor needs will amount to 14 million workers in the year 2000 whereas the secondary technical schools do not have the capability to graduate more than 20,000 [skilled] workers annually.

A doctorate thesis prepared by Dr al-Sayyid Ayyub of 'Ayn Shams University says that the number of technical and trade institutes has risen by only four institutes in the past 14 years, bringing the total to 33 institutes. Moreover, the spending on industrial school students has dropped in comparison to other developing countries. The Egyptian student costs nearly 45 percent of what the student in Lebanon costs and nearly 37 percent of what the student in Iraq costs.

Moreover, large numbers of students have been trained in spheres not needed by the state plan. Even though the number of technical education students has exceeded 52 percent of the total number of secondary [high school] students, this percentage is still incapable of meeting the development needs.

What is more, the number of students in theoretical colleges has exceeded 185,000 students, compared to only 125,000 students in the practical colleges. The number of theoretical college graduates amounted in one year to 36,000 students whereas the number of graduates of the technical training institutes and the higher technical institutes amounted to only 31,000 graduates.

Engineer Muhammad Ibrahim Salah, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Higher Education, says that the technical training institutes are governed by a number of considerations aimed at supplying trained technical labor. The ministry cannot accept more than 13,000 students annually because of the high costs of the construction of new institutes. Throughout the past 5 years, only one industrial institute and four trade institutes were established.

Moreover, the shortage of appropriations and the decreasing number of faculty members compels the ministry to reduce the number of enrolled students and to graduate technicians who are not up to the required level. The industrial schools graduated last year 3,439 students, compared to 10,000 students graduated by the trade schools.

The ministry's adviser for technical education adds:

In their present condition, the technical institutes can [not] meet the country's need. (The lack of appropriations, the small number of institutes), the small number of instructors, the disinterest of students in technical education, the predominance of the theoretical aspect in this education due to the lack of equipment and the lack of incentives to attract students to technical education are all factors behind the drop in the numbers of trained labor.

Technical Training Institutes Are Not Enough

The matter is not confined to the technical institutes or to the enrollment policy at the universities. The number of the Ministry of Education's secondary technical schools has, according to an official source of the ministry, dropped from 364 schools to 350 schools as a result of the decisions of a number of governors to transform some industrial and trade schools into university colleges, as had happened in Sawhaj and Bani Suwayf. However, the number of students graduated by these schools does not exceed 120,000 students. Moreover, the schools controlled by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transport and Communications, amounting to 140 schools and nine sections, include 19,000 students.

But the predominance of the theoretical aspect in the education of these schools and the lack of appropriations allocated for equipment and for practical training have also turned these schools into institutes graduating no more than civil servants.

More than one ministry takes part in training technicians, including the ministries of industry, social affairs and housing, in addition to the Production Efficiency Agency and the armed forces. This in itself creates a kind of conflict and lack of coordination.

A report by the education branch of the Specialized National Councils says that despite the large number of the vocational training institutes, these institutes suffer from the problems of confused education, training and labor levels and of the lack of set specifications for every [labor] category. The percentage of skilled labor among their graduates does not exceed one-half percent and the percentage of craftsmen does not exceed 5.5 percent. This is in addition to the problem of the lack of cooperation on the part of the production and service sectors which have the capability to train the labor prepared by the Ministry of Education.

The director of the Armed Forces Directorate of Vocational Training Centers offers solutions which call for increasing the number of armed forces vocational training centers, considering that these centers were able to supply 35,000 drivers, 32,000 craftsmen and 20,000 skilled workers and clerks in one year, that the number of

technicians and craftsmen released from the army annually amounts to 35,000 workers, including 23,000 drivers, and that the number of skilled workers released from service every 5 years amounts to 100,000 workers.

The capabilities of the vocational training centers can be employed to train 12,000 workers. Keeping these centers at work for longer hours can raise the number of skilled workers graduated annually to 16,000 workers, especially since the costs of training one individual range from 120-200 pounds monthly.

Sa'd Ahmad Husayn, the director of training at the Ministry of Education, says that the ministry has prepared a plan which provides labor training according to patterned programs depending on the work conditions and the labor needs. The ministry is preparing 24 programs to train industrial and trade school graduates, department managers, institute secretaries and equipment maintenance [mechanics].

He says that this is why the ministry has been able to train 3,000 male and female employees on skills and crafts that are in demand. But the ministry refuses to train office boys and messengers because the Central Organization and Management Agency refuses to transfer the jobs [words unintelligible].

8494

CSO: 4504/101

REGULATION OF LABOR EMIGRATION PROPOSED

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 18 Nov 81 p 6

[Article by Hasan 'Uthman: "Training Experts: Labor Emigration Has Raised Craftsmen's Wages and Exhausted People with Limited Income; It Is Necessary to Organize Emigration so that No Obstacles May Develop in Face of Development Plan"]

[Text] The Higher Manpower Planning Committee will discuss in its coming meeting under the chairmanship of Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, the minister of manpower and vocational training, the working paper prepared by the training experts to deal with the shortage of skilled labor.

The paper asserts that the main reason for the shortage of trained manpower is the emigration of Egyptian labor to the outside world. The paper further asserts that this emigration has affected and will affect Egypt's economic and social life because it has come to include skilled and unskilled labor in all sectors whereas it used to be confined to the practical vocational sectors and to the workers with superior skills.

The labor shortage has led to a big shortage in the trained skilled labor, thus raising the wages of craftsmen and of skilled technicians. As a result, people with fixed incomes have come to shoulder additional burdens without a counter increase in their incomes.

Moreover, each of the ministries concerned with training draws up a vocational training policy different from that of the other ministries. This had led to the multiplicity of agencies in charge of training and to wasted effort.

A large number of training supervisors and instructors have also emigrated to the outside world.

The paper proposes several solutions to the problem of manpower shortage, including the proposal that missions be dispatched to countries concerned with training, such as the United States, Japan and West Germany, that monetary incentives be offered to training instructors and supervisors, that the Instructors Training Institute which is now in operation be bolstered, that specialized training institutes be established and that emigration to the outside world be organized so that no obstacles may rise in the sphere of development and so that it may not become

difficult to implement the development investments as a result of the absence of balance between the skilled labor supply and demand.

The paper also includes the ministry's plan to supply trained labor through the intensive training of people of ages 18 to 45. The training will be given for the skills that are in demand and will last for a period of 4 months at the training institutes, followed by 4 months in the public and private sector establishments. Monetary incentives will be offered to instructors, teachers and supervisors. This is in addition to training school dropouts of ages ranging from 12-18 years on skills needed by the labor market. These dropouts will be given nine-month training at the schools controlled by the Ministry of Education.

The paper also demands that executive measures be taken to put into operation the center which the ministry has established in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport, the General Union of Land Transport [Workers] and the U.S. AID. The center can provide training for 20 technical vocations.

8494

CSO: 4504/101

MINISTER EXPLAINS NATIONALIZATION OF IBM

LD011216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Feb 82

[Text] On the eve of the auspicious anniversary of the imam's return to Iran and following the end of the international IBM company's domination of Iran's IBM company, the latter started from today a new phase as a company affiliated to the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, according to the Central News Unit.

Mr Banki, minister of state and head of the budget and planning organization, today toured the former Iranian IBM company during which he explained the new situation to the staff.

In connection with the decision to wind up international IBM's operations, the minister said that computers and informational technology were among those things supplied on a pretext in order to pave the way for the multinational companies' influence in Iran. Every month a considerable amount of foreign exchange was paid as rental and in many cases we were forced to become dependent. Following the revolution, the Revolution Council appointed a commission of the national informative with the task of drafting an information policy in the Islamic Republic and investigating the work carried out in Iran by foreign firms in this field. Following talks held between the commission and foreign firms an agreement was reached according to which it was decided that IBM's entire moveable and immovable assets and [word indistinct] and claims, including 100 computers, would be handed over to the government of the Islamic Republic. According to the agreement, it was decided that the spare parts required by Iran within the next 5 years will also be provided.

In addition, the agreement also provides for the sale and provision of spare parts required by Iran in the long term.

Mr Banki added that the total value of [word indistinct] which was handed over to Iran on the basis of the agreement amounted to around \$47 million of which around 15 million was deducted as part of IBM's tax dues. We allowed around \$30 million of IBM's balance to be deposited. Withdrawal from this account can only be made with the prior agreement of the government of the Islamic Republic and any sum withdrawn can only be spent in Iran and the deposit cannot be transferred abroad.

Therefore, the minister added the government of the Islamic Republic was able to return to the Muslim nation of Iran part of the plundered wealth of this nation. The minister expressed the hope that the government will be able to do the same in other fields and to regain what is rightfully ours.

BANK GOVERNOR REPORTS ANNUAL PRODUCTION FIGURES

LD302034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that the annual general meeting of the Central Bank of Iran was held this evening, chaired by Mr Hoseyn Namazi, the minister of economics and financial affairs. Also participating were the minister of state in charge of the plan and budget organization; a representative of the minister of trade; and the governor and officials of the Central Bank. The meeting reviewed and approved the balance sheet for the year 1358 [March 1979-March 1980].

Mr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the governor of the Central Bank of Iran, briefed the meeting on the economic developments during the year 1358. The head of the supervisory commission then informed those present of the report submitted by that commission's inspectors on the Central Bank's operations during the year 1358. The balance sheet figures were reviewed and approved. Our correspondent has prepared this report:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

In his report on the economic situation in the year 1358, the Central Bank governor said: The year 1358 began under circumstances whereby the government was faced with very complicated problems. These problems, which originated from disorder in the economic affairs of the country during the years previous to [word indistinct] brought about an unprecedented crisis which could have resulted in the country's complete economic paralysis. Stoppages and go-slows in many industrial production units, resulting from mismanagement, financial difficulties, shortages of raw materials and industrial problems, had increased the rates of unemployment to unprecedented figures and had reduced industrial production to an all-time low. In other industries, such as construction and oil, the same situation prevailed, so these industries were also faced with a reduction in production rates. Agricultural production showed a relative growth. Except for this, according to preliminary estimates, the GNP and the bazaar fixed [word indistinct] showed a reduction of 6.9 percent; a lot less than the reduction of 11.7 percent in the year 1357.

Concerning the situation with regard to the agricultural sector, the Central Bank governor said: The agricultural sector, according to preliminary estimates produced by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, in the

agricultural year 1358, wheat production increased to about 6 million tons, an increase of about 8 percent compared with the previous year. With this increase in wheat production and the proper use of stored wheat, the natural increase in the consumption of wheat was met, and as a result, wheat imports remained the same as that of the year 1357--approximately 1.56 million tons. According to the same estimate, 3.8 million tons of sugar beets and (?136) thousand tons of tea were produced, an increase of 4 and 13 percent respectively, compared with the previous year's production rates. But the year 1358 showed a decrease in rice and barley production of 17 and 1 percent respectively. Pistachio nuts production was decreased by about 87 percent because of frost. Despite this, the overall increase in the value of [words indistinct] of the agricultural sector increased by 3.3 percent compared with (?fixed) prices.

The Central Bank governor commenting on oil production and exports during the year 1358, said: In the year 1358, Iran's crude oil production averaged 3.4 million barrels per day--a 19-percent decrease compared with the previous year's rate of production. Our country's crude oil exports were reduced by 25 percent to 2.6 million barrels per day, but because of an increase in oil prices the government's income from oil and gas was not decreased; in fact it increased by 20.4 percent.

The Central Bank governor, when reporting on other economic developments for the year 1358, said: One of the most important steps taken by the government was to nationalize private banks.

CSO: 4640/147

'TEHRAN RADIO' REPORTS ON FRIDAY PRAYERS

LD291834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jan 82

[Text] Millions of our Muslim and revolutionary compatriots took part in the glorious Friday Prayers all over the country today. Masses of the ever-present on-the-scene people of Tehran also took part in the religious-political Friday Prayers ceremonies at the University of Tehran--this rendezvous place of those who are in love with justice and those who are seeking the path of God. Hojjat Ol-eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the ad-interim Friday imam of Tehran, read the prayers sermon.

Before the prayers, the Islamic revolution prosecutor of Tehran, Mr Lajvadri, spoke as the pre-sermon speaker. He referred to the steps being taken to investigate those people who plundered the national wealth and who made a fortune at the time of the former regime. He said: The total number of files investigated by this office since 22 May 1981 in connection with financial matters is twice the total number [investigated] last year. At present, there are 4,000 financial cases at the prosecutor's office in Tehran and unlawful and illegally earned assets of around 360 people have been confiscated, reaching a figure exceeding billions of toman. During the past 6 months, the prosecutor's office has placed [words indistinct] billion toman at the disposal of the martyr's and the oppressed foundations and the reconstruction crusade. Officers of the prosecutor's office have succeeded in preventing the escape of a large number of satanic individuals at the Tehran airport and the Bazargan border.

The Islamic revolution prosecutor of Tehran afterwards referred to the activities of the mohareb mini-groups [mohareb are the people who wage war against God] before and after [words indistinct] and analyzed the records and achievements of the provisional government [of Bazargan] and the deposed Bani-Sadr vis-a-vis these counterrevolutionary mini-groups and [analyzed] the problems which those actions brought to the Islamic Republic.

Afterwards he referred to the mistakes caused by the liberalism in the Islamic society and (?praised) the role of the people in fighting against this danger.

In connection with the investigation of counterrevolutionary crimes, the Islamic revolution prosecutor of Tehran reiterated: Since the time when I accepted the present post, there has been a 230-percent increase in investigations into these

matters. This achievement was not the result of the efforts of the prosecutor's office, rather it was made possible because of the growth in the people's political awareness. That is, the people were controlling any counterrevolutionary moves and stood against them.

He afterwards referred to the last ditch effort of the counterrevolutionaries in Amol and praised the important role played by the people in confronting this plot. He said: During this anti-Islamic movement, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the mobilization corps, the Komeyteh [Islamic revolution committees] and the security forces, side by side [with] the people, foiled the (?filthiest) plots of the counterrevolutionaries.

Mr Lajvadri afterwards referred to the method which the prosecutor's office deals with members and cadres of the mini-groups and said: Within the first hours of interrogation, 90 percent of the members repent, as they themselves call it so, and come back [to Islam] and even cooperate with us in our operations to arrest other mohareb members.

In conclusion, he referred to the efforts made by the members of the Islamic revolution prosecutor's office in the Central Province and said: During the past 25 days, these brothers have arrested 300 members of the blasphemous mini-groups of the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalh] the Peykar and the minority wing of the Fada'ium [Cherikha-ye Fada'i-ye Khalq].

Finally, he thanked the brother guards and other brothers at the 14 Komeyteh centers in Tehran for their cooperation with members of the prosecutor's office.

Next, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani gave the Friday sermons. In his first sermon he talked about the meaning of social and economic justice from Islam's viewpoint. He cited some examples which showed the importance which was attached to labor and laborers by the great prophet of Islam, His Holiness Mohammad, may God's peace and blessings be upon him, as well as the importance given to agricultural products by Imam Ja'far Sadiq, may God's peace be upon him. Talking about work and labor in Islam he said: In Islam neither excessive wealth nor poverty are condoned. Islam regards excessive wealth and poverty as a danger to people.

Referring to some traditions by the noble prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him, and by 'Ali Bin Abi-talib, may God's peace be upon him, and Imam Ja'far Sadiq, may God's peace be upon him, concerning the harms done to the society as a result of poverty, as well as the views of Islam that wealth leads to man's wretchedness, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: One should examine why America is facing so much misery and why a wealthy country like America, which can have complete economic well-being without being in need of other countries, should try to incite wars in different parts of the world. The interim Friday imam of Tehran referring to the evils of (?wealth and poverty) said: At this time, in various parts of the world, the people have been divided into two groups. One group of people possess 70 to 80 percent of the wealth of the world and a smaller number are relatively well-off. However, the majority of the people of the world are deprived people. In any case, one day the people

will revolt and will demand their rights. This is a social situation which will come to pass. Today 19 countries of the world control 73 percent of the world although only 16 percent of the population of the world live in those countries. On the other hand, 60 percent of the people of the world possess only 11 percent of the wealth of the world. This division of wealth in the world is not natural and the wealth of the world is being drained from the poorer countries of the world to the richer countries. For instance, in only 4 years America realized about \$11 billion from its investment in the southern Americas. This is anti-human and anti-Islamic. The aim of Islam is that such economic injustice should not take place in any society or in the world.

In his second Friday prayers sermon, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani talked about current affairs, including the issue of Israel's recent crime, the ending of the conference of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, as well as the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the return of the imam to the country and the incidents in Amol. Concerning the United Nations, he said: We have expressed our views. We will go to the United Nations so that we may make use of this forum and express our views. However, [the real] work should be done somewhere else.

In a part of his second sermon, Hojjat Ol-islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:
[begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording]

We should pay attention and identify the enemy. We should get to know him and should decide which weapons will be effective against this enemy. Fortunately, the enemy has been identified and its position is clear. The weapon has also been identified and we possess that weapon. The Muslim community possesses all the means of victory. Unfortunately, we do not have anyone who would make use of this weapon. Those people who possess the weapon are, unfortunately, not concerned and are not prepared to take part in the [effort]. We know that Israel will not take any steps without America's permission. Even if we did not know this, we realized it as the result of the American veto [concerning the UN sanctions against Israel]. We realize that there has been an agreement between them and that they have acted jointly. We realize this. Now the strange thing is, and one can die of sorrow as a result, that a country such as Saudi Arabia is the custodian [motevali] of two holy shrines meaning they should protect both the holy places in Jerusalem as well as the Ka'ba. Yet that gentleman [presumably King Khalid] has become the real custodian [motevali] of America in the region and the custodian of Israel. It means that today the real obstacle in the path of the Islamic movement is only Saudi Arabia. I swear to God that there is no one else but Saudi Arabia. She is the major obstacle. [shouts of God is Great] Syria says come and cooperate with us. Do not give oil to America, to France, to Britain. Do not give them oil for a while. Instead, they [the Saudi Arabians] do the opposite and spitefully say that they will reduce the price of oil. [sentence indistinct] what does this mean? Even if America lived in Saudi Arabia [as heard] she [America] would not have been able to slight the Muslims and humiliate them in such a flagrant way. Well, America is guilty. Israel is guilty. We know that they cannot live without oil while we can live without oil.

During the 3 years after the revolution, Iran has lived with a minimum of oil and we are getting used to it. The day will come when we will be able to live completely without oil. We and many other Muslim countries are like this. Of course, that day will never come, because oil is something which will always be sold. Oil warms the world, cools the world, moves the world, lights the world and many other things. It is not something which they can refrain from purchasing. We should endure hardships on a temporary basis. We tell that gentleman [presumably the Saudi King] to produce a little less oil.

In response, they act against Iran, against Syris, against Libya, against Algeria, against any country which is dependent on oil and they produce 12 or 14 million barrels of oil a day. She is making use of this weapon to hit us on our heads. Let them now go and talk in the United Nations. What can they say? Of course, we will have our way. I am not saying that we should not talk. However, action is needed.

One day we should start acting. We have money, we have weapons and we have oil. Yet, America says that oil should not be used as a political weapon. It should be used. Why not? They themselves [the Americans] have used it as a political weapon. Whenever they wish to punish someone they do not buy oil from her. The first thing they do is place an embargo on the purchase of oil. This is a blockade. Therefore, they have used oil as a political weapon. Why should we not do the same? Why should we be deceived? This is one issue which I referred to briefly and I should have talked about it in greater detail.

Regarding the conference of the Persian Gulf countries: Thank God after the conference they have shown some reasonableness. We do not know whether they are telling the truth or not. We do not know their secret resolutions. However, in appearance, in the interviews which they had after the conference they said the conference did not concern Iran and that they wish to have cooperation among themselves. So far, we have no objections. Let them cooperate with one another. We wish for all the Muslim countries to be united. We even wish for the Arabian AWACS, which are American AWACS, to protect their airspace as well. We have no designs concerning their airspace. We do not even have any designs concerning them with others. If tomorrow Iraq wishes to raise a hand against Kuwait, we will break that hand. We will not allow any country to lift a hand and to violate them. We are also their supporters, if they are wise enough. [shouts of God is Great]

In any case, we hope that what they said recently is correct, that they have regained their reason and that they wish to live in understanding. We also promise them that we will not disturb them. If they are on the path of Islam, if they are with their own nations, if they do not suppress Islam and if they are not in the service of America they will have our support, too, God willing.

Another issue is the incident which took place in Amol. This was a very telling incident. The enemies brought some people together from various parts of Iran, from Kurdistan, from Azarbaijan, from (?Tehran), from all over the place. They gathered them together for a while for the anniversary of the revolution. They wished to engage in a maneuver. Although this maneuver caused the death of 30 of the best people in Amol, which is a source of great sadness, nevertheless

it revealed many points. The result of all the forces they assembled and all the time they spent was that they engaged in gangsterism and disorder in Amol and conducted an experiment. How else could we have been able to find 60 of their leading persons in one place and destroy them. One by one they had to be cornered in a street, to engage in some act of sabotage, and then be killed. Sixty of them were killed there in one day. The second issue which was very revealing to us was that ever since the beginning of the revolution they had engaged in propaganda saying that the northern cities of the country are very leftist (?and that they are stronger there than anywhere else). They counted on it a great deal. They used to say that the northern people were corrupt, the people were not religious, that the Pahlavi regime had made great investments in corrupting the people and that they could make use of that immoral place and could gather the irreligious people around themselves, and so on and so forth. They used to say that the cities are like this and the forests are like this. From the beginning of the revolution they made safe havens for themselves and assembled weapons and so on. The people of Amol brought joy to the hearts of the Iranian people through their behavior. If they had been expelled only by our guards and our police force we would not have been so happy. The fact that the people, the people on whom the counter-revolutionaries counted on so much, confronted the wicked insurgents with bare hands and punished them in that way, this is a source of hope for our people, for our imam and for our officials. They give us a great deal of hope for the future efforts of this nation. This was a positive climax--that we have reached such a state. God willing, this will be a lesson to our domestic and foreign enemies, that they will make up and realize that they have no base in this country, neither in Kurdistan, nor in Azarbaijan, nor in Baluchestan, and neither in the north nor in the south. [end recording]

In the continuation of his second sermon, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran and the return of the great leader of the revolution talked about the epoch-making events of February 1979. Concerning the war, he said: Saddam is continuing his earlier crimes, and we repeat our first words, namely that the enemy forces should leave the soil of the Islamic homeland without any preconditions, and that the aggressor should be tried and that the aggressive enemy should pay for war damages. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: We demand from the armed forces, the guards, the mobilization and popular forces to deliver the final blows and to put an end to the matter and to crush the enemy.

At the end, the temporary Friday imam of Tehran gave a sermon in Arabic for Arab sisters and brothers.

CSO: 4640/147

'CLANDESTINE RADIO' SAYS ARMYMEN, POLICE NOT TARGETS

NC291622 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT
29 Jan 82

[Text] Iran's armed combatants and revolutionary people have asked the armed forces, police force and the gendarmerie to refrain from any intervention in incidents that will take place in the future or to join revolutionary forces.

A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that in statements and night letters circulated in recent days in the Gilan and Mazandaran provinces, in Kordestan, Shiraz and Tehran, armed combatants have asked brothers in the armed forces, gendarmerie and police force to leave their centers when people's attacks start, because the people do not intend to harm the personnel of the armed forces, police force and gendarmerie, and their objective is only to destroy the hireling and criminal revolution guards of Khomeyni's regime.

The Free Voice of Iran correspondent adds in his report that the 10 people said to have been executed in Amol in connection with the clashes in the city and the combatants' raids were personnel of the gendarmerie and police force who did not act according to orders from Tehran Province on shooting at and confronting the people of Amol and opponents and that none of the armed combatants were arrested in the Amol clashes. They all returned to their bases.

Iran's occupied newspapers have reported that during the Amol rebellion 34 revolution guards and 32 armed combatants were killed.

The Free Voice of Iran correspondent adds in his report that 125 died. Most of these were revolution guards. (?Revolution guards) attacked villages surrounding Amol and (?brought some villagers) to Amol with the intention of placing them against the armed combatants [words indistinct]. (?The villagers) refused to do so and only some [words indistinct].

The armed combatants have warned all security forces to refrain from interfering in the clashes with the revolution guards and to (?leave their posts) by laying down their arms in the coming days as soon as they see revolutionary forces which will attack (?security centers).

CSO: 4640/147

'CLANDESTINE RADIO' ON SUPPORT FOR NEW AMINI FRONT

NC301845 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Compatriots! There is no room for the least bit of doubt that Khomeyni's Islamic Republic is a regime with no tomorrow, because our country cannot continue to exist with the conditions it has faced for the past 3 years.

The people's tolerance has a limit. There is no nation in the world which is prepared to sit idly by and watch the crimes committed by its rulers and not do anything; watch dozens, hundreds of its compatriots--young and old, men and women--being sent to the gallows and not speak; watch hundreds of people from the various strata of society thrown into prisons and dungeons and remain silent.

No nation can tolerate so many (?calamities), let alone our nation [words indistinct] which has rubbed the faces of all despots the dirt, and which is now not prepared to be influenced by a bunch of illiterate, parasitic, criminal and corrupt mullahs who, in 3 years, have destroyed the wealth, welfare, tranquility and security of a country which was (?an example for all the world).

More than 2 million people from our country are wandering throughout the world, and each day hundreds of the Iranian nation's children are killed. The revolution that 3 years ago may have aroused the world's praise and hope that the Iranian nation would be able to build a paradise in its country with the same zeal, fervor and unity has, by the hands of a bunch of criminal mullahs, been turned into such a hell that [words indistinct] (?terrifying the world). Nevertheless, the Iranian nation cannot say [words indistinct], and everyone more or less knows that we have to scratch our own backs. No one but ourselves can save the country from the calamity it has fallen into; no one but ourselves, Iranians, can put out the fire that has been (?set to our homes); no one but ourselves can destroy a regime that has involved us in misery, poverty, war, (?death) and numerous other calamities and has deprived a 40-million strong society of peace and tranquility. The unity that existed 3 years ago is now more necessary than ever before. It should (?reemerge) so that we can save our country from the clutches of people who have brought it to this degree of calamity, so that we can (?confront) the various machinations and plots that have been imposed on our people and rid ourselves of them.

Compatriots! The Front for Iran's Salvation, which recently announced its formation abroad, has not found any other path but this path for the salvation of our homeland--Iran. This front has realized that it is impossible for (?anyone but ourselves to do something). If something is done it should be done by the Iranian nation, and the Iranian nation is our nation. (?Save the ship of our homeland from the tempest). The Front for Iran's Salvation has realized that if a miracle is to take place it can only be done by the Iranian nation, and that only our people's will can remove the obstacles. [words indistinct] (?and bravely confront and remove the misery, as has been done throughout the thousands of years of our history), and which was recently shown by the brave forest rebellion--the rebellion of the people of Amol [words indistinct].

Yes, compatriots, the Front for Iran's Salvation has realized [words indistinct] the unity of all Iranians for Iran's freedom.

CSO: 4640/147

IRAN

'CLANDESTINE RADIO' ON DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRAN

GF011247 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
31 Jan 82

[Text] Thousands of our compatriots will soon go into streets in an Iranian city to hold demonstrations in memory of the uprising of the Amol combatants. This was reported by the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Tehran some moments ago.

According to the report, nationalist guerrilla groups will use the 7th-day and 40th-day anniversary of events such as the uprising of the people of Amol and the manly Jangal epic. The report by our correspondent does not indicate whether the uprising in another Iranian city will be on the 7th- or 40th-day anniversary. In order not to disclose guerrilla actions or popular demonstrations prematurely and in order to keep the club-wielding guards and regime security forces ignorant about the location of the next incident, the name of the city has been kept a secret. There is a strong possibility that the celebration of the epical Amol uprising will result in death for another group of the regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni, the Tehran dictator, and create a bloody combat epic for nationalist forces against the turbaned devils.

The Free Voice of Iran again calls to the attention of nationalist armed force personnel, members of the Iran-loving gendarmerie and those regime guards who have repented the notices of nationalist combatants and the warnings in night pamphlets. It invites the zealous army and self-sacrificing Iranian police to avoid interferring in the war of the Iranian nation and the armed guerrilla groups against the guards and the regime's agents.

Our correspondent indicates that actions are underway to identify guards who are in army uniform.

CSO: 4640/147

'CLANDESTINE RADIO' ON OUTLOOK FOR ENDING IRAN-IRAQ WAR

NC031546 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Feb 82

[Station Talk]

[Excerpts] Facts indicate that both the Soviet Union and the United States have come to the conclusion that the war between the Islamic Republic and Iraq should end. Washington is afraid that the continuation of the war and the escalation of chaos will increase the possibility for infiltration and indirect encroachment by Iran's northern neighbor, while Moscow fears that the Islamic Republic's daily increasing need for all essential products--from foodstuff and medicines to arms and spare parts--will bring the Islamic Republic close to the big satan.

Apparently, diplomatic activities toward fulfilling the wishes of the Soviet Union and the United States have intensified, but because of Khomeyni's stance secrecy too has intensified in the same proportion. It seems that they have deemed it advisable to prevent (?Khomeyni's disgrace) by denying reports and rumors of mediation by this or that friendly and fraternal government. Of course, these precautions slow developments and it is because of this that political analysts of Middle East problems do not expect any outstanding development in the war in the coming months.

Meanwhile, the war continues and each day several people on both sides are killed and wounded while cannons and bombs inflict heavy material losses to both countries and the nations of Iran and Iraq. While Iraq is coming closer to other Arab countries, the Islamic republic's Foreign Ministry has started activities aimed at establishing political and economic relations with Western countries. It purchases U.S. arms and ammunition on markets, sends secret delegations to the Pentagon, the U.S. Defense Department, and also increases its transactions with the Eastern Bloc.

Meanwhile, the sham war between the United States and the Soviet Union on the principles of democracy and human rights continues and their transactions in balancing power and the equilibrium of terror in various parts of the world as well as the situation in Iran have caused both powers great concern, but neither one of them can predict Khomeyni's insane reactions in their transactions.

At any rate, if the war continues, both see their interests endangered for completely different reasons. The Kremlin wants to play the main role in the Middle East and it needs both Iraq and the Islamic Republic to do this. It tries, by bribing Khomeyni, to affect the Islamic Republic's leadership and political-economic decisionmaking. On the other hand, the White House does not want to lose its position in this sensitive area and is aware of the fact that Iran and Iraq are among the main elements in the Middle East. Like the Soviet Union, the United States too tries--by giving political bribes--to infiltrate the Islamic Republic's leadership and to create a foothold for itself among the government clergy.

The result is that both superpowers only have in mind to preserve their own interests and, finally, the nations of Iran and Iraq are the ones to suffer more pain and problems each day, and all these disorders and various calamities only stem from the fact that an anti-national and inhumane regime has been imposed on our nation, Iran, by foreign hands.

CSO: 4640/147

CLANDESTINE RADIO EXHORTS AHVAZ ARABS

GF280905 (Clandestine) Ahvaz Voice of al-Qadisiyah in Arabic 0802 GMT 28 Jan 82

[Exhortation to Ahvaz citizens]

[Text] O Arab people of Ahvaz; O strugglers in the depth of the occupied Arab homeland, O steadfast people confronting the tyrannical Persian racist occupation, O people who are preparing for the last blow to end the last pocket of occupation and racist rule, O people who are determined to expel any foreign element from this pure Arab land: From the Voice of al-Qadisiyah in Ahvaz, you have listened to the anthem of your eternal victory. From the radio of the Arab front for the liberation of Ahvaz, you have listened to talks by your fathers and grandfathers and stories of heroism that your sons and daughters are currently forging.

Let this thundering voice be a slogan for your will and a guide for your future struggle. Do not let the blood of our faithful martyrs be shed in vain. Let us keep the flames of [passage illegible] trees. Let us keep alive the anger in the hearts of our old men who are devoted to their land, history and the blood spilled in the Karun River.

Foster the heroes of the 20th century, led by the heroic Iraqi army commanded by the great Arab knight, Saddam Husayn, on the way of liberating village after village, city after city in order to liberate the land of Ahvaz forever. Be sure that the land stained by Pahlavi will not be kept by Khomeyni. This land will ultimately be liberated; the occupation will not last long.

Listen to the Ahvaz Voice of al-Qadisiyah so that the Arab front for the liberation of Ahvaz will continue its struggle every day.

CSO: 4604/11

TEHRAN ON ARAB EFFORTS TO PREVENT SADDAM'S FALL

GF021907 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Jordan's decision to contribute volunteers to the Saddamist war is aimed at saving Saddam and his regime from the hellfire they are about to fall into. This Jordanian action will encourage other regimes, the foremost of which is Mubarak's regime, to perform the same mission of rescuing Saddam and his regime. Hence, came the statement by [Iraqi National Assembly speaker] Na'im Haddad as a first step.

The second step was taken by Bakhtiar, Iraq's permanent envoy in Paris, Cairo and all the European capitals. Bakhtiar's responsibility was to convince Mubarak to follow his predecessor, as-Sadat, in supporting the Iraqi regime. He was also supposed to convince Mubarak to discuss this issue during his talks with Mitterrand and Reagan.

In fact, statements by the Egyptian and French sides show that the Saddamist aggressive war was listed on the agenda of their discussions according to Mr Bakhtiar's request. The issue will also be discussed during Mubarak's meeting with Reagan, who also sympathizes with the Saddamist regime. We cannot forget the aid provided by his predecessor, Carter, under the pretext of the Boeing deal and the deal of U.S. trucks to Iraq.

Thus we find that the common link among all the events taking place in the colonial arena today is rescuing Saddam from drowning in the waters of continuing defeats and saving his regime from falling. Saddam's downfall has become imminent thanks to the efforts of the Iraqi masses and Islam's valiant soldiers. Hence, we find that the link between Amman, Cairo, Washington and all colonial capitals or those who circulate in the colonial orbit is aimed at the achievement of a single goal related to all equations drawn by colonialism for the region: To rescue Saddam from the total collapse that has become imminent and that is threatening him day and night.

CSO: 4604/11

BRIEFS

KURDS' TACTICS--Reports from Klordestan State that the Kurdish combatants have altered their struggle tactics in confronting the usurping regime of the mullahs. A Kurdish official has announced that Kurdish freedom fighters could achieve autonomy rights if a national and democratic regime is established in Iran. [Text] [NC301505 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 30 Jan 82]

NEW ANTIREGIME CORPS--To neutralize the Islamic regime's false propaganda and prevent financial assistance from Western countries reaching the mullahs, Iranian freedom fighters have formed a special corps called the Corps of Truth [Sepah-e Haqiqat]. This corps is led by Nader Haqiqat who is now in Western Europe trying to reveal the truth about Iran to Western governments. It was said in Bonn's political circles that following the publication of the U.S. State Department statement on supporting the Islamic Republic, some European countries intend to prevent the downfall of Khomeyni's regime by extending credits and financial assistance to it. [Text] [NC301510 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 30 Jan 82]

MOTORCYCLES BANNED--The Kazerun Islamic revolution prosecutors office has once again issued a communique banning all motorcycles with engines that are 125 cc or larger from the city. Security forces are requested to arrest violators and report them to the Kazerun Islamic revolution prosecutors office. [Text] [GF301632 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 30 Jan 82]

REZA SHAH II IN PARIS--Our correspondent in Paris has reported that the eldest son of the late shah of Iran, Reza Pahlavi, arrived in Paris this week for a second time and is there at present. Reza Pahlavi, who declared himself shah of Iran Reza Shah II, was in Paris some time ago and held meetings with some opposition leaders. Informed sources consider the meetings this week among Reza Pahlavi, leaders of Iranian opposition groups and some of his own supporters--following the press conference by Dr 'Ali Amini--to be important. A number of Iranian and foreign military and political figures have met in Paris and held discussions with Reza Shah II. The presence of some of them has attracted the attention of observers. According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, Reza Pahlavi's trip to Paris is the latest development in the wide-ranging activities of the young shah of Iran. [Text] [GF311842 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 31 Jan 82]

MAZANDARAN MILITARY SITUATION--According to a dispatch from our reporter, Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Revolution Guards, has asked the Islamic president to send reinforcements to Mazandaran Province. According to this report, the guards' commander has stressed that the deaths of 57 guards and 14 hezbollahis in Amol shows that the antiregime forces are very powerful. He said that the revolution guards will not be able to offer a great deal of resistance against future attacks. [Text] [GF311621 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 31 Jan 82]

KHAMENE'I ILL--According to the latest report, 'Ali Musavi-Khamene'i is gravely ill and under treatment by foreign specialists together with Ruhollah Khomeyni, the Vali-ye faqih of the Islamic Republic invented by the mullahs. In special ceremonies held in the Esteqlal Hotel today, Mir Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i, the prime minister of the regime, received foreign guests instead of his brother, 'Ali Musavi-Khamene'i. [Text] [GF011544 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 1 Feb 82]

TEHRAN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY--The Central News Unit reports that Tehran Polytechnic University reopened today, the anniversary of the return of the imam of the nation to the Islamic homeland. There were recitations from the Holy Koran. On the first day of the university's reopening, which was marked by a ceremony in the presence of the minister of culture and higher education, members of the cultural revolution headquarters, a teacher from the Qom Religious Seminary and a number of Tehran University officials. The chancellor of Tehran Polytechnic welcomed the students and said: We should abandon our preconceived ideas about universities, on this first day of this university's reopening. He said: According to the imam's order for a speedy reopening of universities, we have invited the committed and experienced university lecturers to cooperate with us and more than 90 percent of them have accepted our invitation. Further in his speech, the chancellor of Tehran Polytechnic said: According to available statistics and society's need for certain expertise, our education program has been relatively well prepared in this respect and our students will serve society after graduation. Finally, he added: All university staff and students should know that in the first stages of reopening there will certainly be many problems, and there are shortages which should be met. This university's classes will officially be resumed tomorrow. [Excerpts] [LD011134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Feb 82]

NORTHERN CLASHES--According to the roving reporter of the Voice of Iran in the north, the cities of Ramsar, Babol and Chalus are very tense and sporadic firing can be heard on occasion. The residents of these three cities converged on the streets and began shouting slogans against Khomeyni's regime but were forced to disperse due to armed intervention by guards. No exact information on possible casualties is available. It may be recalled that, contrary to claims by officials of Khomeyni's regime, the situation in the northern districts of our country is troubled in wake of the gory clashes in Amol, but the mullah's media refrain from (?mentioning these incidents). [Text] [GF031824 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Feb 82]

SHIRAZ PROTESTS--According to our Voice of Iran correspondent, a group of patriotic citizens residing in Shiraz has held demonstrations in the streets of the city demanding the release of political prisoners and an end to (?ruthless) executions. As a result of an attack by Hezbollahis and Khomeyni guards on the discontented persons, four opponents of the mullah's regime were seriously injured. Eyewitnesses confirmed that the armed guards resorted to shooting in the air to disperse the demonstrators. Our correspondent adds that disturbances and demonstrations in Shiraz ended at 1800. [Text]
[GF031434 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Feb 82]

CSO: 4640/147

SITUATION OF ARAB NAZARETH DISCUSSED

East Berlin HORIZONT in German Vol 14 No 51. (signed to press 14 Dec 81) 14 Dec 81
pp 16-17

[Article by Guenter Stillmann: "In Nazareth Today"]

[Text] Repeatedly before and during the elections the penetrating question--to put it mildly--had been asked both by the Israeli government and by representatives of the different denominations in Nazareth itself, namely: "Should a communist really be mayor in the city of Jesus Christ?"

The answer from the Nazarenes came at 4:00 am on that day in December when Rasan Chabib, chairman of the election commission, announced the final results of the municipal elections in Nazareth: Tawfik Zayad, Democratic Front candidate from Nazareth, received 67.3 percent of the valid votes. Almost 10,000 citizens voted for him. The Democratic Front has 11 of the 17 seats in the city parliament.

That was 6 years ago now, on the morning after the election of 9 December 1975, and that had never happened in Israel before: Tawfik Zayad, born in Nazareth in 1929, son of a worker, today Politburo candidate of the Central Committee of Israel's Communist Party and since 1973 delegate to the Knesset--the parliament--national poet, writer and well known author ("A Nazarene On Red Square") became the first communist mayor of a city in Israel.

Old Nazareth

I have known Nazareth for many years, because almost every time a trip as journalist took me to Israel I visited Israel's largest Arab city which is located in lower Galilee, about 35 km southeast of the port city Haifa. I always drew comparisons as to whether and--if so--what had changed there in past years, even more so in recent decades--since the time that I lived as an emigrant in the Palestine of that time from 1939 to 1947.

For example, in 1960 when I saw Nazareth again I found hardly any differences when compared with the earlier mandate time. To be sure, the picturesque view which the city offers because of the slender cypress, eucalyptus and olive trees that grow all around on the hills gave me pleasure as always. But I also saw that the Arab women still had to carry water from Mary's Well to their houses. And everywhere there were still the filthy open sewage gutters in the narrow streets of the Old City, and in the suq, the open market, the flies were still buzzing around between the sewer water and the food for sale.

Of course, the numerous tour groups from the United States were new to me: With considerable noise they visited the churches, monestaries, synagogues and mosques of Nazareth which number at least 20, but mainly they visited the Church of the Annunciation in which the guides for each group declaimed in a loud voice the words of Archangel Gabriel which were written on a panel:

"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus." (Luke 1, 30-31)

The virgin gave birth to the boy--according to tradition--in Bethlehem, as everyone knows, but Jesus spent his childhood and youth at the side of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. In the Church of St. Joseph one can still visit the place where Joseph's carpenter shop is supposed to have been.

Pressures and Slander

At that time something else also struck me as "new," namely that in the city where formerly the British military governor used to reside, the flag of the Israeli military governor now waved. After the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 a military governor specifically for Nazareth was appointed in order "to keep" this largest Arab city in Israel "under control" (Arabs may leave the city only with authorization of the military governor--even if for a short while, for example, in order to see a dentist in Haifa).

Many times I saw and experienced that the policy of the Israeli military government and of discrimination against the Arab population as second-class citizens continued in the succeeding years undiminished, indeed with growing intensity. Prior to the memorable December 1975, which was mentioned above, the city council of Nazareth received only modest financial assistance and support from the government in Tel Aviv. Some 700 hectares were "amputated" from the city territory which previously comprised 1,500 hectares, that is, they were confiscated and expropriated, construction of industrial enterprises or residential districts in Nazareth was vigorously refused.

But then shortly thereafter there arose instead on the confiscated ground, on the hills to the east and north of the city, Elit, "Upper Nazareth," a new part of the city for new Jewish immigrants which was laid out like a fortress--with industrial enterprises and every luxury. In spite of the housing shortage Arabs are forbidden to rent an apartment there. The purpose was clear: To break the Arab majority in the city council and to elect a Jewish mayor.

The Israeli military governor also did everything he could to "get" his people "in office," yet their corrupt mismanagement forced even the Israeli government to dissolve the city council in June 1973. According to law, new elections would actually have been due in December 1974, but were postponed for a year. The reason was simple: People were afraid of the communist majority, because in the Knesset elections at the end of 1973 the communist party in Nazareth had collected more than 58 percent of the votes. A commission to administer, excluding the communists, was thus appointed for the first time. Yet 1 year later--for the optical effect the election could not be put off any longer--the success for Nazareth's democrats was all the greater.

For the Well-Being of the City

Today, 45,000 Arabs live in Nazareth, 16,000 Jews in the new Jewish upper city section Elit--it received its own municipal administration.

The school system continued to be one of the mayor's chief concerns. Although it was possible to build two new schools with heavy sacrifices, there is still shift instruction, and class size runs from 40 to 50 pupils.

A second major problem is unemployment, a consequence of the policy of "starvation of the economic system" a policy to which all Arab villages are exposed in contrast to Jewish ones. Many Nazarenes are simply forced to work in Haifa or in even more distant regions at low wages. Many come home only on weekends or are even separated for weeks and months from their families. And for the most part they have to work in inferior positions or professions. Thus, the mayor's brother finds himself in the same situation as many other highly educated Arabs: He is a university lecturer, but must earn his living as a smith.

Since the Democratic Front has been governing in Nazareth, Zayad sees to it that all resolutions must be unanimously approved by the 11 city councilors of the Front (6 of them are communists). Each organization attached to the Front has veto power. For in the case of individual questions--as with decisions about the renovation of buildings in the Old City or of schools--special interests and differences of opinion could result. Yet Zayad's authority depends on his honesty and consistency which impress the city councilors.

Many of the difficulties stem from the fact that Nazareth today receives hardly any state subsidies. The budget amounts to most to 20 percent of the funds which are awarded to Israeli cities of comparable size. The Nazarenes therefore resort to self-help. Every year in August they get together in order to beautify the city with volunteer labor and mostly more than 5,000 inhabitants take part in the work. They are mainly young people, but also Palestinians from the occupied West Jordan country and several hundred progressive Jewish youths who come from various parts of the country--out of solidarity. Thus, in the past few years, more than 20 km of new water pipes were laid with hard volunteer labor.

When 6 years ago the newly elected city fathers of Nazareth took on their difficult office, those city councilors who did not belong to the Democratic Front expressed doubts as to whether a communist mayor might not become the cause for intensified pressures and drastic measures by the Israeli government. In fact, in summer 1980 there was a third attack (arson) on the City Hall in Nazareth. Zayad, although as a Knesset delegate he has immunity, was repeatedly bothered in his home and in the city hall by the military and the police, rooms were searched and furnishings destroyed.

In 1975 many still asked: "A communist as mayor, whether that will work out?" the Arab citizens of Nazareth have seen that--in spite of all the difficulties--more was accomplished in the past 6 years for their home city than ever before in the time since this state of Israel has been in existence. And they know that Nazareth became a model for other Arab villages and cities in Israel.

EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL ENTENTE DISCUSSED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-SUWALI in Arabic No 228, 14-20 Sep 81 pp 6-7

[Text] Merely convening the Arab Follow-up Committee on the scheduled date, 3 September, was a victory for the committee over itself and over the climate that prevailed on the eve of that date. The committee might have had to "lift a jar of beer," as the saying goes, except that it was able to specify a "reconciliatory" step which ought to be achieved, before it begins the major steps that it prescribed for itself at the meeting before last, held the last part of July, i.e., steps to bring the Lebanese factions together in a dialogue.

The reconciliatory step required is Lebanese, but it also requires Arab approval. It is to open the corridors between West and East Beirut. This could provoke a headline, i.e., Relaxation Is Soon Possible, or as the Lebanese call it, "the gates of relaxation" after 5 months of continuous patience.

If the expected results of the latest committee effort remain in the framework of the "compromise solution," that is, in the first stage to open one of the gates, the al-Mutahaf gate, provided that discussion continue about opening the Sodeco and al-Marafa' gates in order to connect them with the difficulty of the markets, then legal authority circles and other sources among the committee members emphasize that the committee has reached what could be called the point of no return. Those sources have stressed that there is a determination to implement what was in the final statement, and that Syria told its allies in Lebanon that it wants implementation and is determined about it. Note that Syria has not ignored the reservation expressed by the National Movement about the formalities of settling the matter of dealing with Israel.

Perhaps the thing that confirms the seriousness of the results coming out of the committee is that President Ilyas Sarkis, who usually mutters about the pros and cons, this time has mumbled that there is a "movement." It is well known that President Sarkis commented that the last meeting of the Follow-up Committee was of the utmost importance, even if only what he considered a minimum was achieved.

Perhaps this "stirring" was what made Lebanon embrace, at least tacitly, the determination to hold an Arab summit specifically for the matter of the South, considering the fact that the results of the ministers' tour of the Arab countries called to mind the climate of the Tunis summit which produced this Follow-up Committee. President Sarkis did not conceal the fact from the ministers that

Saudi Arabia was not enthusiastic about holding an early Arab summit regarding the Lebanese matter, since Arab consultations currently show a desire to hold the regular Arab summit as scheduled in Rabat next November, because there are doubts about the attendance of several heads of state.

Moreover, government circles have balked at some of the results the ministers came back with. Moroccan King Hassan II expressed his country's readiness to participate in "the deterrent force," if that was requested, but he expressed fears about the success of the summit, if its session was moved up. The Algerian president coupled his approval of the Lebanese request to hold the summit with his request to the Lebanese government not to go to the summit in a disagreement with the Palestinians, suggesting that a joint Lebanese-Palestinian working paper be prepared beforehand. He expressed Algeria's willingness to use its good offices.

Some sources have tied this climate to information that has been interpreted, to some extent, as delay in beginning implementation of the Follow-up Committee's resolutions, indicating that there is an effort to insure Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian understanding of the basis of supporting the committee's actions through emphasizing the Syria role in that regard.

The Lebanese government still believes that this understanding is the start of the Lebanese side's understanding with Syria. Would a meeting between Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel and Col Muhammad Ghanim, within the framework of the Follow-up Committee, open a window of the future of the Phalangist-Syrian dialogue, for which the government has worked so long to achieve and which is necessary to extract Lebanon from its ordeal, or would a window continue to be difficult to enter to the broader dialogue?

When Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib, commander of the deterrent force, returned from Damascus, bringing President Sarkis a reply to the letter that he had conveyed to senior Syrian officials, he expressed strong pessimism to President Sarkis and expected that the Follow-up Committee would not convene as expected, for fear of failure. Syria had demanded new conditions to ensure that dealings with Israel had ceased. Unless the Lebanese Front agreed to them, and they were considered humiliating and debasing, then the committee's meetings would be useless and would be better off postponed.

These conditions required the issuance of three statements about stopping the dealings, a statement from the Phalange Party, a statement from the Lebanese Front and, additionally, the statement which was issued by the "Lebanese forces," and the formation of a commission to watch the coast and ports to prevent arms coming in to Lebanon, except for those belonging to the legal authority. Some of the ministers who are close to the government were present when Sarkis received Damascus' position. The pessimism showed on his face. They expressed their readiness to urge the Lebanese Front to accept the new Syrian conditions, so that all the controversy around the matter of dealing with Israel would finally be ended.

The Saudi Ambassador, Lt Gen 'Ali al-Sha'ir, took the initiative, assisted by Minister Michel al-Murr and an effective military official. Al-Sha'ir met with Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel, while al-Murr met with Col Ghanim, and the military official with some of the staff of the Lebanese Front, in order to persuade them to approve

the issuance of a statement confirming the obligation not to have any dealings with Israel, and to approve the formation of a commission to watch the coast and ports to prevent the entry of arms, so long as this ban would include all parties including the Palestinian Resistance.

The contacts succeeded, and the Lebanese Front issued the statement in compliance with Syria's demand. At this point, efforts changed to achieve the first Phalangist-Syrian meeting which would put an end to the controversy. These efforts concentrated on a meeting between Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. However, the Syrian minister refused to hold such a meeting, for fear that the step would be wider than desired and would have negative repercussions on the leaderships allied with Syria, creating coolness and estrangement between them.

At this point, it was agreed to hold the first Phalangist-Syrian meeting between Shaykh Bashir and Col Muhammad Ghanim, the Syrian member on the ambassadors' committee. Some Phalangist officials were not enthusiastic over this meeting and had reservations about it, because they wanted it to be with Minister Khaddam himself. It was finally agreed to hold the meeting with Col Ghanim, because the purpose as such was to hold the meeting no matter what the level, since that would be the beginning of the Phalangist-Syrian dialogue. Accordingly, the meeting was held in the presence of the ambassadors, and Shaykh Bashir asked: "What is our guarantee?" Ambassador al-Sha'ir replied: "Syria is your guarantee, Shaykh Bashir. That was proven in 1976, and it was in fact the best guarantee."

At the same time as this meeting, another meeting was being held between Minister Khaddam and a National Movement delegation, which was no less important. However, the climate of the latter meeting showed the government some of the difficulties which it might have to face some time. The National Movement, through its secretary general Muhsen Ibrahim, expressed reservations about the way in which the committee decided the matter of dealing with Israel, noting that the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, asked during the consultations: "Why return to the matter of dealing with Israel? We as foreign ministers in our previous meeting considered the matter done with, in accordance with the letter from Shaykh Bashir to the president." The National Movement then demanded to be informed of the details of the surveillance of the coast and ports, before discussing opening the gates. They insisted on guarantees to block any return to dealing with Israel and requested that Syria and the nations of the "Steadfastness and Confrontation Front" provide those guarantees. There are some trying to impose the statement of Libyan President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi about his country's initiative to solve the Lebanese question, but this initiative is still just a suggestion.

If the statement that the National Movement issued, after its delegation's meeting to the Follow-up Committee was negative, while Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel's statement was positive, although he expressed some reservations and uneasiness with respect to the optimism, the Follow-up Committee had now become the object of contention. Accordingly, before its next scheduled meeting of 7 November, it must achieve consolidation of the cease fire, cooling off of the confrontation lines and surveillance of the coast and ports, in order to begin the political dialogue with all the parties, after it was inaugurated by the Phalangist-Syrian meeting, and eliminate all the reservations and opposition of the Phalange.

The question being broached in political and official circles is: Is the window that was opened by the Gemmayel-Ghanim meeting adequate for comprehensive dialogue to come through it, or is it too narrow for this dialogue, so that the winds of discord will re-enter?

A political source says that President Sarkis, since the beginning, has been a hostage to the need for Syrian-Phalangist entente as a way of getting out of the ordeal, and that he has worked very hard for this objective, because in his opinion, without the Phalange, there will be no comprehensive reconciliation, no firm security and no government of activists.

When the problem of the dealings with Israel surfaced and intensified to the point that it made any Phalangist-Syrian dialogue impossible, President Sarkis forcibly intervened to solve this problem, and in solving it, called on Saudi Arabia for help, as well as on the special envoy, Phillip Habib, until he achieved the issuance of a statement from Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel confirming the obligation not to deal with Israel.

Now what will happen after the first Phalangist-Syrian meeting was held? Will this meeting open the door for other wide meetings, or will this meeting be the only one?

Informed sources say that the matter depends on the extent of the understanding there is about the security and political issues. At the head of these issues is the fate of the deterrent force and the next presidency. Shaykh Bashir Gemmayel rejects the retention of the deterrent force and demands its withdrawal, so that the first presidential elections can be conducted under full Lebanese sovereignty, avoiding the election of a new Babrak Karmal, as he put it. Syria might have a different opinion, if it wants to retain its forces in Lebanon until a new president is elected who is acceptable and satisfactory to it, in order to assure security and political stability. Syria considers itself capable of bringing this president to power, even without the assistance and participation of anyone. These words were reiterated by Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to senior Lebanese officials.

The same sources add that Syria's agreement with the Phalange on a candidate for the presidency might make discussions regarding withdrawal of the Syrian forces subordinate to the deterrent force possible, in accordance with a time table. Unless this agreement is reached, the security situation might continue to be subject to deterioration and the first presidential elections a candidate to meet an unknown fate.

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CSO: 4404/36

SHAMS AL-DIN CALLS FOR SOLUTION TO SOUTH

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1298, 18 Sep 81 pp 13-14

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Shiite Islamic Council, by Amin al-Saba'i: "We Demand a Minimum of Security in the South to Provide Maximum Steadfastness!"]

[Text] At a time when the government, the Arab Follow-Up Committee and the mediators are discussing solutions to domestic security to pave the way to open political entente, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Supreme Shiite Islamic Council, is completing the most important stage of the survey he has been conducting in areas of the South and the Biqa' Valley. The survey that this Islamic authority is conducting includes territory threatened by Israeli occupation. The population remains steadfast in their homes, on their land, threatened by various possibilities of annihilation and destruction.

One of the objects of Shams al-Din's trip was to shed some light on the hidden gaps in the Lebanese and Arab positions regarding the responsibilities devolving on everyone. He emphasized in his private meetings the available indicators on the Arab scene point to the painful fact that, as he expressed it, there is no time to draw up a unified Arab strategy, nor to give the South the attention it deserves, before Israel swallows it up and the loss of Arab territory in installments through wars by proxy. It is a tragic process that has been going on for many years.

Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din opened the file on the South for AL-HAWADITH in a comprehensive interview, beginning with a question about the new convictions that he had as a result of his survey. He said:

[Answer] It is difficult to call them new convictions. Perhaps they are a new form of old convictions.

1. I want to make it clear that the element of tragedy that the observer notes is the prevailing element in the South; suffering and pain are major factors in life, stability and growth.

2. Regarding the Lebanese person in the South, perhaps he is overcoming the tragedy. There is now with the pain a feeling of determination to stand fast and to resist. This is a major spiritual and psychological development, and naturally, is in Lebanon's interests.

Our opinion, which has not change, is...the questions raised are simple questions. Is there any guarantee that Israel will not occupy the South? Is there any guarantee, in that event, that settlements will not be built? Is there any guarantee of stopping forced evacuation from the South?

In the face of this, in the face of what is happening in the South, in the face of continuous Israeli aggression, the threat of severe, vicious, barbaric aggression, what is the situation?

I believe that there is an escapist situation, since talk about the necessity for steadfastness and resistance to Israel is increasing. This is a healthy and logical situation in the vacuum. However, in order that there be a sound, rational and realistic political situation, it must have muscle, teeth and claws. It must be an Arab position, not just a southern Lebanese position, nor just a Lebanese-Palestinian position. This position must at the least be an Arab position, because we believe that the Palestinian case on one level must take on an Islamic dimension, and on another level, it must take on an international dimension. This is because it must be epitomized as a Palestinian victory, victory over the forms and dimensions of the new imperialism in the Third World. From this aspect, in order that there be a realistic position, there must be a so-called Arab strategy, so that the southerner will not have a vacuum, a nothingness, a non-resolution behind him, nor a declaration of non-war. The southerner must be supported by a resolution for war, and by everything that can be derived from this resolution, so that he can go beyond the boundaries of just the media and enthusiastic position.

We say that with the existence of this true strategy, we will be the first of the fighters, the first of the martyrs as well. There is no longer any consideration for the value of human life, nor even for the value of land, because the southern and Lebanese question is entering a larger, pan-Arab form which is subject to other values, values that are greater than our persons, our villages, our nationalism.

If there are circumstances and obstacles preventing the construction of this strategy, what will the situation be? Will the situation remain as it is? The fate of the South is, we are convinced, to be a new occupied land, a new pawn. An enforced evacuation will happen in this event, to serve Zionist plans.

At that time, what will happen to the demand to liberate occupied Arab territory is that it will remain the same, but with several hundred Arab kilometers in the South added to it.

Is this position, which will psychologically satisfy Arab officials outside of Lebanon for a while, a gain for Arab rights, for the Palestinian case, for the Arab future?

I believe that this situation, in light of the present international reality, will be an opportunity for Israel to record new victories and additional gains in the region at the expense of Arab rights. Accordingly, we say that we must in fact work to emphasize the following slogan: Ensure minimum security in order to provide maximum steadfastness in the South, not in a piece of Beirut nor in the hereafter!

[Question] What is your conception of ensuring the minimum security that you demand?

[Answer] Providing this minimum security can be done by applying all the agreements pertaining to the situation in the South. In the long-term and realistic view, we believe that the interests of the Palestinian revolution lie in thus putting an end to the tragedy in which all of us live. Arab regimes are not likely to draw up a combat or battle strategy and apply this strategy to the country. However, we suppose that since the establishment of the Arab Mutual Defense Council more than 20 years ago, a comprehensive strategy ought to have been established. Despite the fact that, for years, we have heard that the Arabs would fight and would choose the time and place, so far it is apparent that the nature of the composition of the international climate will not permit such war-like, military action against Israel.

[Question] What are the priorities?

[Answer] Arab interests, Islamic interests, the interests of Islam crushing the new imperialism, make it incumbent to establish this strategy, to declare a state of war, to launch the war, to do everything possible quickly, because any delay causes more delay.

[Question] But the situation is completely the reverse of that?

[Answer] So long as this opinion is not held by the regimes, which believe that political action can achieve Arab rights or one stage of Arab rights, then this political action should also be applied to Lebanon. More than this, we have said: Let the Lebanese front, i.e., the southern Lebanese front continue to burn alone, but with an Arab decision and with joint Arab tools. That is, the Arab armies must come to the South and bear the responsibility for the confrontation with us, in support of the strategy that declares a state of war. Don't send us those who fight by proxy. We must be one nation there, because the battle is a pan-Arab battle, at the least, and in fact and in essence is an Islamic one.

[Question] At the beginning of this interview, you raised several questions about the occupation of the South and guarantees, the building of settlements and evacuation. These questions must have been mentioned in your discussions with officials. Did you get any definite answers from them?

[Answer] No. These questions have been and are being continuously put to Lebanese and Arab officials. We have received no replies. However, we constantly get what puts us into a state of doubt and fear. We are acting like cowards. In fact, the nature of the present situation, the international situation, in which and through which Israel moves, makes all the possibilities possible.

[Question] The South is hopeless; one feels that the South has been given up on. Officials are concerned with the domestic situation; the Arabs don't ever comply with Lebanon's call for moving up the date for the summit conference. The Arabs are also incapable of reaching the point of discussing the unified strategy. On the international level, there is only a concentration on consolidating the cease fire, announced after the recent Israeli attack. In addition to that, there is talk about a diplomatic report stressing continuation of action on the concept that Henry Kissinger established for the future of the area, which he based on the belief that Lebanon's continuation as an independent state was not essential. What is the alternative to this dark picture?

[Answer] I have no idea about the diplomatic report you referred to, but the nature of what is happening suggests that Lebanon, for some time past, has been deserted, either because it is not essential or because its rubble might be used to patch up something else. In any event, we have talked with Arabs and with the Follow-up Committee itself, regarding this matter. To some degree, we have talked and will talk more precisely and clearly with the ambassadors of the five major powers in Beirut about these dangers, which we perceive against the South. We have stated, as we will state, that a situation of this sort weakens the South, and consequently Lebanon, because Lebanon exists as a result of the agreements of specific wills. Any breach in any one of these wills will finish Lebanon. I hope that everyone well understands this. We shall try to make them understand that weakening the South will certainly put most of the Arab World into great danger. It will create a condition in the Arab World which God alone knows the gravity of. Therefore, I want to make this point clear, whenever we raise the matter of the South, and the matter of Lebanon as a whole, because the South is the part of the body that is the sickest and hurts the most.

[Question] A dialogue had begun between you and the Palestinian Resistance Movement. Then it stopped. Why did this dialogue stop and why doesn't it resume?

[Answer] In fact, the dialogue has not ceased. Perhaps the form or formula of the dialogue has changed, but the dialogue as such has not stopped. The undertaking with the Palestinian Resistance is based on several facts:

First of all, a conviction stronger than a political one, a basic conviction that the Palestinian Resistance is right and must continue, must grow and must be protected and preserved.

Therefore, any political presentation to the people of the South does not violate support for the Resistance. We could have asked for total security, not just the minimum. We could have said that we wanted maximum security. However, deliberately and consciously, we asked for minimum security, in order to ensure the integrity of the citizen's political destiny and of the land. The Palestinian Resistance is a part of the Arab scene. The truth is that it is the spearhead of Arab action. This causes everyone's heart to bleed, since if the Resistance is the spearhead, where is the spear itself?

Therefore, the Resistance is a part of the Arab scene, and the Resistance is never likely to be separated from it, nor the Arab scene separated from the Resistance. When we have spoken and do speak with the Arab brothers regarding this matter, the Resistance receives its most loyal due from the understanding that it is essential and must be cared for. Perhaps I personally, as everyone knows, have declared and applied a specific, Palestinian political commitment that may not enjoy popularity, but at the same time, I know that it is my Islamic, Arab and moral responsibility, imposed by a set of values, that imposes this kind of commitment. Our Palestinian commitment compels us to have a similar commitment to the South and to the people in the South. Therefore, we have not, nor will we, in any form or other, cut off the dialogue with the Resistance.

[Question] What is the course of discussion regarding developing the Arab Follow-up Committee's mission to embrace the South with the same concern as the opening of the corridors, especially in light of your support for their recent decisions?

[Answer] Since the recent Tunisian conference, it has become clear to us that the subject of the South, in accordance with the engineering and programming of Arab political effort in Lebanon, has become either at the end of the priority list or outside the scope of discussions. The Supreme Shiite Islamic Council has established a position and a concept, and the government, in the person of President Ilyas Sarkis, has been informed of this position and concept, and the Arab Follow-up Committee has also been informed. As a result of this effort, I am able to say that it was accepted with considerable understanding. We were promised that this concept would have priority, considering that there was difficulty with every position in Lebanon. By way of example, if we pursue the problem of corridors in Beirut, we feel that it is bound ultimately to a specific southern situation, or a specific Arab situation in the South or a Palestinian situation in the South. We have proposed to the government that the Arabs act with effective, productive Arab pressure, and not with just words, on the Americans and Western Europeans especially, to put an end to Israeli aggression against the South and to guarantee a stop to these Israeli attacks and schemes. On the other hand, this could lead to applying the Security Council resolutions pertaining to the South and to healing relations between the government and the Palestinian Resistance, through Arab mediation, which is the Follow-up Committee. We believe that the Follow-up Committee is a good mediator and an excellent conduit between the Lebanese and the Palestinians, with respect to the Resistance's position in Lebanon and its political and liberational duties.

This viewpoint, with all its many ramifications, which we explained, was accepted and agreed to by the Lebanese government and the committee as well. It was discussed at the Bayt al-Din conference. As for recent results, it is clear that a plan to deal with the South does not apparently exist in the Follow-up Committee's decisions. We are fully prepared to undertake an initiative in this direction to learn how far we have come in working on behalf of the situation in the South. One way or another, we must all face up to their responsibilities.

[Question] It is said that the reasons for absence of discussion is a matter of formality, since the Follow-up Committee has discussed domestic conditions?

[Answer] The South is one of the elements of the internal situation. The South is a Lebanese province. I don't want to go into the reasons that make it difficult for the committee to come to grips with the southern Lebanese problem, or the Lebanese problem in terms of the South. In our estimation, the reasons for not discussing it are inadequate, and we shall be discussing this matter with the parties concerned. As we have repeatedly mentioned, we support the peace process in Lebanon through the Arab Follow-up Committee. We are not opposed to any accord which can be reached on any level, from opening the streets to cease fire, to banning the influx of arms. However, the situation will continue to be inadequate, and the treatment incomplete, so long as the situation in the South is ignored and no practical concept is found to restore the government's authority there, and to pursue its role there. We have told them that the mark of every explosion in the South will remain and effect the domestic situation, since one cannot insulate the borders of the southern province, nor build a wall to keep strife and disorder out of Lebanon. All the tension in the South will reflect on Beirut in multiple forms.

[Question] What is the fate of the renewed talk about transferring the activists and popular commands to the South, in order to bolster steadfastness there?

[Answer] This matter is not unlikely; it exists today in one form or another. It is not unlikely that this presence will be more and more consummated. Everyone should face up to their full responsibility and bear its consequences, both Arab and Lebanese. As we mentioned before, we are not among those who think that the political solution has any benefit on the Arab level, or on the level of the Arab case. We think that the solution is in all-out war, because partial war or war by installments means defeat by installments. This is what has happened since the start of the imperialist onslaught against the Arab World in Palestine.

From the 1930's to the 1970's, we have been fighting in installments, and we have been losing in installments, until all of Palestine went, and with it, the so-called Arab occupied territories, which we must face frankly, lest southern Lebanon becomes part of that. Over and above occupied Arab land, there also went the possibilities of growth and Arab liberation from the influence of the new imperialism for everyone in the Arab World, because the war was in installments and because, in some cases, the war was by proxy and in others, in installments. The Palestinians are fighting for the Arabs by proxy, and the Lebanese are standing fast, by proxy, for Arabs, or this regime or that is fighting in installments. This method is one big reason out of many reasons. Perhaps it is the only reason. As I said, we support the idea of total war, war that does not take into account development policies now being followed in the Arab World, war that builds a society of war, that is prepared to sacrifice the society of wealth that is now being built in the Arab World. However, what are we building if we understand so little, and if all the leaders in the Arab World, who can make decisions and have the means to carry them out, see another view? Are we making the South a part of the occupied Arab territories?

I don't think that the legal and moral position will ever help anything in this regard. This is a suicidal position that damages everyone, not just the people in southern Lebanon alone.

[Question] What is the status of your plan aimed at sending the 200,000 emigrants from the South back to the South?

[Answer] We are continuing our efforts in that regard. There might be some obstacles, some of which stem from the reluctance and weakness of the government and its not fully understanding the problem, its calculations about money, profit and loss, and ignoring responsibility. They are considering projects that would attract the southerner back to the South, a consideration subject to either it has merit or it doesn't, that this organization is sound or it isn't. The South, in a political sense, is not in a state of disaster, which does not yield to the expenditure of money and the implementation of projects, because of economic feasibility. On the contrary, it must be subjected to politically feasible considerations. The government is still like the bazaar merchants, since it calculates economic feasibility. It calculates feasibility as the thief does gain, both large thieves and petty thieves. Complaints in the South are escalating over roads, schools, electricity, water, but the Arab funds that come earmarked for the South, we don't know how they are spent. The Council for the South has had its administration changed, and the funds are concealed from it. The state has so far not approved implementing a new financial system to raise the value of assistance to those who have suffered damages. We know that in disaster conditions, the national government is responsible for making politically feasible calculations for expenditures, not profit and loss calculations. We will not be tolerant about a fundamental matter like this.

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